

CHERRY VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER  
Fall 2015



The tide recedes, but leaves behind  
Bright seashells on the sand.  
The sun goes down, but gentle warmth  
Still lingers on the land.  
The music stops, and yet it echoes on  
In sweet refrains.  
For every joy that passes,  
Something beautiful remains.

-Unknown

Julie Johnson, one of our members, shared this lovely sentiment with us.



The following have passed away since our last newsletter:

David Arthur Buck	94,	Oct. 2015
George T. Wendt	74,	Nov. 9, 2015



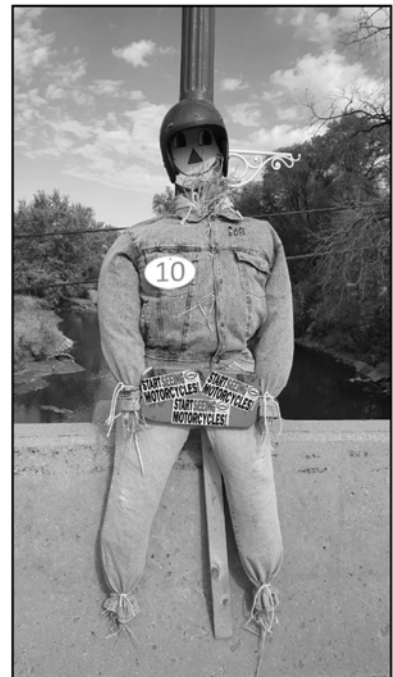
The annual scarecrow competition sponsored by the Cherry Valley Library adds a lot of fun to the downtown area in October. These years' winners are:



**First Place - The Minions**  
created by the staff at Alpine Bank



**Second Place - Edward Scissorhands**  
by Kim Marsili from Viziato Salon



**Third Place - Watch for Motorcycles**  
by Beverly & Vernon Martindale, in memory of their son



### The Murphy Clan

Our family moved to Cherry Valley in 1950 to 420 Genoa Road. Our Dad (Bob Murphy) worked in Rockford for the U.S. Post Office as a mail carrier, where he retired as a supervisor. Mom (Lola Murphy) eventually retired as officer in charge at the Cherry Valley Post Office. I was in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, Sally, Mary Dale, and Terry attended Cherry Valley grade school and Tim was a toddler, not yet in school when we moved to the valley. Back then the school districts changed several times. Kathy, Sally and I all graduated from East High, Mary Dale and Terry from Auburn, and Tim from Guilford. All us kids lived at home on Genoa Road until we left to get married.

Cherry Valley United Methodist Church was where we all were married, with the exception of Terry and Sherry. Their wedding was in Rockford. We are all still members of the CV Methodist Church. I married a Valley guy, Bill Gorsuch, and we built our first home on Mill Road. Kathy married Vance Sunberg, and they bought the Farr home on Van Buren St. Sally also married a Cherry Valley guy, Pee Wee Hollembeck, and their home was on Ulster Street. Sally still lives there. Mary Dale bought her home from Don and Dorothy Allen on Mill Rd. Sherry and Terry Murphy bought the Homer and Vera Wilson home on Lawrence St. Tim and Connie settled on Wheeler Rd. in Kirkland.

Our family as grown considerably! Mom and Dad would have had 18 grandchildren, 33 great grandchildren, and 8 great-great grandchildren.

Dad served on the Cherry Valley Village Board for 6 years, and Sally is still a village trustee. Mom was on the C. V. school board in the 50's. Mom and Dad, Pee Wee, and Terry were all Citizens of the Year in Cherry Valley.

Kathy, Sally, Mary Dale, Tim and I are all widowed. Everyone including myself is now retired. Each of us still call Cherry Valley home, even though we now live in Belvidere, Rockford, Cherry Valley and Kirkland.

Submitted by Pat Gorsuch, the oldest of the Murphy clan.

### Cherry Valley Cemetery

Imagine that you are standing on a tree filled knoll that overlooks the Kishwaukee River just outside of Cherry Valley. Looking around you see the property purchased by Thomas Poulton in 1850. As you look at the headstones, you see this land was used as a burial site even before Thomas purchased it. The earliest headstone is from 1826 for Foster Blackington, then Mary Horton in 1839. The land has

had many burials since then, and many of us have relatives resting there. When the flags are placed for our Veterans, you'd be amazed at their numbers. A Cemetery is not to grieve, but to be comforted. One has but to walk among the rows, and know the generations that have been. They ask nothing of us except that which we ask of ourselves, that we care for the God's Acres in which they rest as though it were a sacred trust.

In July of 1905 a petition was sent to the Secretary of State asking to form the Cherry Valley Association. The first Pres. was Fred King, Abram Davis VP, Josephine Slater Sec., and Ray Lee Treas. This group's board of trustees responsibilities have not changed from that day: taking care of the grounds, mowing, raking, removing limbs, dead trees and repair work on monuments. Done originally by members of the board or families of those buried there, in recent years this has needed to be hired.

Many of you don't know how the Cherry Valley Cemetery operates. Because it has come down through a family since the date of its inception, the Village does not own the land, nor contribute to its' upkeep, nor does the County. Therefore, we operate only on the interest from CD's, which has been extremely low.

This excerpt from an editorial in the Rockford Newspaper is as true today as it was in 1958...when originally published. "Perpetual care—the average cemetery has few resources beyond the price of the lot, a part of which is set aside in trust for continuing care. Money willed to a general fund for maintenance and improvement, and gifts from those who hold cherished memories of those buried there, is always hoped for."

It would be greatly appreciated if everyone would donate what they can towards rebuilding the maintenance fund to keep the property in good shape, and not let it go to the state as so many other private cemeteries have over the years.

Unfortunately at this time our cemetery is tied up in legalities, and we are not able to sell lots. We try very hard to keep it looking nice. This is a non profit association, no trustee or officer receives any pay, and we do need your help before the money is gone.

We ask that when you are preparing your will, you remember the Cemetery Association. Anyone making a cash donation should make the check to the Cherry Valley Cemetery Association, mailed to:

Cherry Valley Cemetery Association  
Cherry Valley, Illinois, 61016  
....or ....  
c/o Alpine Bank  
C.V. Cemetery Donation Acct.  
P.O. Box 6086  
Rockford, IL. 61125-1086

Submitted by the Cherry Valley Cemetery Association



Thank you to the Cherry Valley Village Hall for their wonderful support and assistance.  
And to CV Methodist Women group for their sponsorship.  
Please let our sponsors know you saw their advertisement in the newsletter, we appreciate them!

H h h h h h

Editor.... Pam Jeske ([golfnsew@aol.com](mailto:golfnsew@aol.com))

Please feel free to drop a line, add some content, share some stories either to my e-mail,  
the Historical Society's e-mail ([cv.historical86@frontier.com](mailto:cv.historical86@frontier.com))  
Cherry Valley Historical Society, Box 266, Cherry Valley, IL 61016  
Or stop by, leave a note ...have a chat with a member!

# Cherry Valley Area Men's Club

## What has Cherry Valley Men's Association done for the Cherry Valley community?

1. Petitioned and got the speed limit reduced from 55 mph to 45 mph at Mill and Harrison
2. Established the Robert Larson Foundation, to help CV area students with college or technical education
3. Donated uniforms and equipment for the 4th and 5th grade, boys and girls basketball teams at Cherry Valley School.
4. Donated cheerleading uniforms for the 4th & 5th CV grade spirit squad
5. CVAMA members assist with a yearly clothing, food and paper shredding drive at city hall.
6. Donated and helped raise funds for 65 uniforms for the Goldie B. Floberg special athletes. Travel bags, jackets jerseys & shorts.
7. CVAMA worked the the Winn. County Forrest Preserve to design, produce and install rules of the river signs at [6] Winn. forrest preserves
8. CVAMA made 20 "Love your River" signs and are along the Kishwaukee River.
9. Donated to the CV Merchants youth baseball team uniforms.
10. Donated to Christmas lights and installed lights [Dave Doig in 2011 & 2012]
11. Donated 600 frisbees to the 2012, 2013 & 2014 4th of July parade
12. Coordinated and got the Oscar Meyer Wienermobile to come to the 2012 4th of July parade
13. Sponsored numerous CV 4th& 5th grade school basketball players to coaches clinics held for youth basketball
14. Designed, produced and printed [1,000] 2015 Cherry Valley Calendars.
15. CVAMA annually sponsors Family Night Ice Skating at the Carlson Ice Arena.
16. CVAMA is having their first golf outing September 14th at Newburg Hills.
17. CVAMA hosted & mediated a political debate at the Methodist church, open to the public to meet the candidates.

**To Join or to get more information  
visit our web site [cherryvalleyama.com](http://cherryvalleyama.com)**

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of the month at Salamone's at 7 p.m.



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5315 Sandy Hollow Rd. [aplaceforspace.com](http://aplaceforspace.com)

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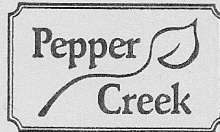


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